

Round the Soviet Union

INTERNATIONAL COURSES ON AGROMETEOROLOGY WERE HELD IN ODESSA, A CITY ON THE BLACK SEA. They were attended by scientists and experts from more than 20 developing countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America. Its programme included the rational utilization of hydrosources, land and forestry management, proper consideration of extreme climatic conditions in agricultural production. Soviet scientists gave lectures and did laboratory work.

A HISTORY AND ETHNOGRAPHY MUSEUM HAS OPENED IN ARSHAN-ZHELEN, A VILLAGE IN KALMYKIA. The exhibits include articles of national applied art, household and cultural items. The first exhibition is devoted to the 375th anniversary of the Kalmyk people's voluntary joining the Russian state. The entire population, especially schoolchildren, actively participated in collecting exhibits. Exhibitions have been mounted in most rural and urban museums of the Kalmyk Autonomous Republic situated in the south of the European USSR.

THE NEW ELECTRIC MUSICAL INSTRUMENT OPUS, TO BE PRODUCED BY THE FACTORY IN RIGA, THE CAPITAL OF LATVIA, CAN REPLACE A WHOLE ORCHESTRA. Depending on the wish of a performer it can sound like an organ and a piano. Opus weighs 30 kg and is provided completely with an amplifier and speakers.

MORE THAN FIVE MILLION COPIES OF NEW BOOKS WERE PUT OUT BY THE MEKTEP PUBLISHERS IN KAZAKHSTAN (A REPUBLIC IN THE COUNTRY'S EAST AND CENTRAL ASIA) FOR THE NEW ACADEMIC YEAR TO START ON SEPTEMBER 1. The publishing house has brought out over 70 titles of textbooks for the schoolchildren of the republic, studying in the Kazakh, Russian, Uighur, Uzbek and other languages.



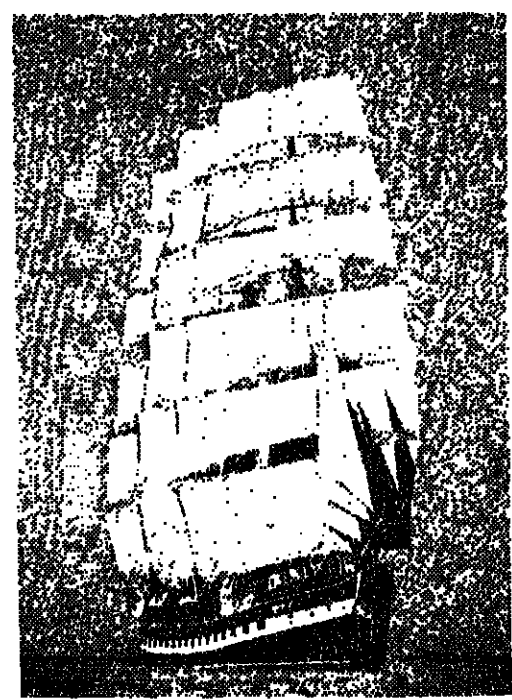
Vimal Kumar (picture) from India is a student of Odessa navigational school, one of the oldest in the USSR. You see him doing his duty of a training ship.

The Soviet fleet of training ships consists of over 20 vessels including the world's largest sailing ship "Sedov" and "Krusenstern" training ship.

The sailing ship "Krusenstern" started her maiden voyage last May, carrying over 200 students of the Tallinn seafaring and Kaliningrad higher navigation engineering schools. All the necessary conditions for studies, including classrooms, a radio house and a navigation room, where ten people can simultaneously be set to work are created for the students. They keep watch and set sail at breathtaking heights in any weather. Although the world's sea men will have to work with push-button rather than with sails and handwheels, the sea demands courage and physical training.

During the current voyage the ship took part in a race organized by the International Sailing Club Association to mark 450 years of the Canadian city of Quebec. "Krusenstern" was the first ship to reach Liverpool from Sydney; its crew received gold medals on the shore. Pictures: Forward to Liverpool (The ship "Krusenstern" in full sail during the trans-Atlantic race.)

A SCHOOL FOR SAILORS



SPACE EXPERIMENT CARRIED OUT

(Continued from page 1)

The information obtained in the course of the experiment will make it possible to optimize the work of the satellite systems for ocean observation in the interests of the national economies of member-countries of the Intercomos programme.

Taking part in the "Glines" experiment, which was carried out under the programme for international space project,

"Study of the Dynamics of the Geosystems by Remote Control Methods", were specialists from Bulgaria, Hungary, the German Democratic Republic, Cuba, Mongolia, Poland, and Czechoslovakia.

The process of photographing and spectroscopy of the Earth's surface from Salyut-7 station were accompanied also by simultaneous photographing from laboratory planes and movable

observation posts by optical and radiophysical equipment designed and made in the Intercomos member-countries.

The results of the experiments will be used in compiling long-term forecasts in different branches of the national economies of the COMEA member-countries and will also be useful in the development of new technologies for probing the Earth from outer space.

Sports complex for workers

The employees of the Yuryev Monastery in Tbilisi, the capital of Georgia, have a new sports complex. It has a swimming pool, a stadium, tennis courts. The social and housing complex, which had grown considerably owing to delays from production profits, it is possible to speed up the construction of the complex.

From the beginning of the year the enterprise has paid two million roubles of goods more than last year without increasing the cost of workers. This was achieved by modernizing the production and improving housing engineering.

In the past few years funds of the enterprise were used to build holiday houses on the Black Sea shore, put in operation a hospital, sanatorium, a youth camp and a kindergarten.

Under Georgia's social development programme sports health complexes will be at 100 large enterprises by the end of the five-year plan.

River changes its bed

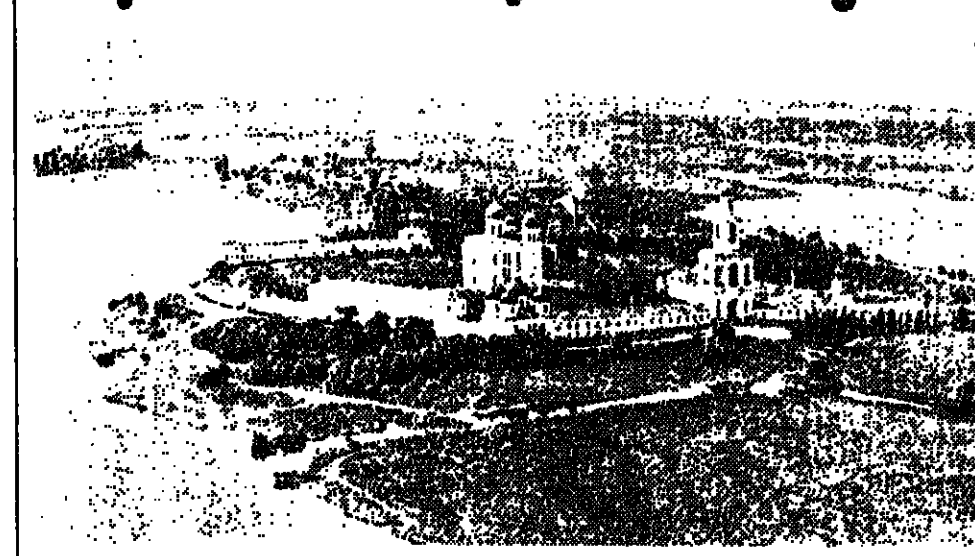
The Chu River, which annually disappears in a willow swamp, has changed its bed. It is now flowing in a new bed, 100 meters from the old one. The Chu Valley in the Central Asian republics has completed its construction of a mighty page waterworks, dig a new bed with concrete along which complicated technical facilities have been built.

The level of the Chu has risen by almost a meter last year. The Chu Valley in the Central Asian republics has completed its construction of a mighty page waterworks, dig a new bed with concrete along which complicated technical facilities have been built.

Saving water is one of the major tasks for hydraulic engineers in Kirghizia. While the new and modernizing of the Chu River, they are also working on an anti-seepage protection envisaged.

Places to visit

Yuryev Monastery near Novgorod



The Myachinskoye lakes mirror old trees lining their shores. The road passes along an earth dam. The alley produces a view of the Yuryev Monastery belfry designed by famous Carlo Rossi.

It was founded in the 11th century by Prince Yuryev the Wise to protect the approaches to Great Novgorod from the side of Lake Ilmen (near the source of the Volkhov River) and to defend the great medieval trading route leading from the Varangians to the Greeks. The prince's monastic name was Yuri, hence the name of the monastery. Quite for a long time it was the

prince's residence as well.

In the interior of the monastery is the grandiose building of St. George Cathedral, erected in 1118 on the orders of Prince Vsevolod Mstislavovich. It is one of the oldest stone structures in Novgorod, symbolizing its power and magnanimity. History has made known to us the name of its designer, Master Peter.

Unfortunately, the ancient frescoes of the cathedral failed to survive: they were barbarously destroyed late last century through the ignorance of archbishop Photiy who decided to rebuild the cathedral.

Science and technology

CENTRE FOR MARICULTURE IN THE MAKING

A research centre for mariculture, the Soviet Union's first base for conducting research into growing sea food, will soon be built in the south of the Far East.

The centre will develop and streamline the processes involved in growing various algae and delicious molluscs. A pool with sea water will have equipment for controlling temperature, oxygenation, water flow and lighting. Part of the equipment will be bought in Japan.

The centre will offer opportunity for breeding more efficient strains of molluscs and develop industrial methods for sea food growing. Training in mariculture will also be arranged.

Work on the new centre will start next year. A cosy bay in the Gulf of Peter the Great was chosen as the site for the project.

DUPE CHECKING PROJECT

Dunes, or wind-blown sand, which started encroaching on the Astrakhan gas processing complex, have been successfully checked using a method suggested by scientists working for the Tashtek Institute of Railway Engineers in Uzbekistan. The methods involve spraying the dunes with a mixture of sand and water, which is then dried by the sun.

The mixture is based around a product of phenol production which is available in domestic chemical factories. Tests have shown that a small amount of this mixture added to sand prevents it from being blown away. The cost of such sand is much lower than that of any comparable compounds produced earlier. A film which forms

A SOLAR POWERED WELDING UNIT

In the Karakum Desert, Central Asia, tests continue with a welding unit powered by solar energy. It is a rather small device developed by Turkmen scientists. It was successfully used to weld together metal frames of a cattle-breeding farm.

The unit operates as follows. Solar energy broke down ordinary water to produce gas. Since sunshine is in abundance in the desert and water is available in any well, a welder needs only a small bag to take with him to fulfil a welding order.

Photoelectric converters in the unit convert solar energy into D.C. current which is then used to produce hydrogen and oxygen from water. A rectifier used in previous models is made redundant.

Two options of the welding unit are available which can find many uses from stomatology to the welding of large metal structures.

JAPANESE WEDDING IN LATVIA

By an ancient Latvian custom 18-year-old Toshie Hayashi and 19-year-old Atsushi Tatebayashi of Kobe, Japan, had their wedding in the Latvian capital of Riga during Kobe Days celebrated in Riga, long regarded as Kobe's twinned-city. The young couple took part in these celebrations.

Cited in Latvian national costume children led the new couple to the House of Weddings. According to tradition they passed through a corridor of multicoloured ribbons which symbolize vicissitudes of life. They then heard Latvian folk ritual songs, Dainas, played on the ancient musical instrument, kokle. The happy newlyweds exchanged wedding rings and their hands were joined by the

ANIMATED PICTURES

Students at the Tbilisi Teachers' Training Institute have suggested unusual illustrations for a chemistry textbook for schoolchildren. A slight change in the spatial position of a page produces movement on a picture, and one can, for example, see how water molecules form.

Such illustrations are made on the so-called lens-taster photomaterials also developed at a student design bureau of the institute. Their optical properties are such that the "capac-

Jules VERNE: oriental style

A curious manuscript, in elegant Arabic script, has been found in the archives of the Institute of Oriental Studies of the Tajik Academy of Sciences. Bound in a beautiful cover, the manuscript is entitled: "Travels by Philips Fogg".

Actually, it is a rare variant of Jules Verne's famous novel, "Tour du monde en 80 jours", which is still popular with young people. The various episodes in the book are presented in the gripping and entertaining genre which developed in Tajik and Persian literature in the 19th century.

The translator has kept very

Vegetable growing: CMEA

Bulgaria has been efficiently contributing to raising crop yields within the framework of a CMEA-sponsored venture.

Multilateral cooperation provides ample opportunity for exchanging high-yield seeds, experimental results, etc., thus reducing the time needed for a crop to be introduced in a CMEA member-country.

Below are some examples. Bulgarian scientists from Plovdiv and Soviet selectionists from Tiraspol have grown new varieties of tomato, the "maril" and the "sunny-1" easily withstanding low temperatures. Among other effective joint ventures are Soviet and Bulgarian work on hot-house processes and early and late vegetable growing.

Plovdiv scientists from Maritsa Institute enjoy direct links with selectionists in Poland, Czechoslovakia. They are jointly working on new varieties of cabbage, onion and some other vegetables. Jointly with selectionists from the GDR, a Plovdiv team runs a station for potato selection.

VIEWPOINT

THEY WILL OPEN THE 21st CENTURY

Irina KHUTSISHVILI

My little friend Ksenya Stalkova has been promoted to class four. She is ten. One little year, then one more little year and I will be six — and will start going to school, Katiya. Do you want to go to school? I surely do, answers Katiya.

5 million 600 thousand similarly curious little ones were, for the first time in this country, enrolled in schools as of September 1. They are not only seven-year-olds, as it used to be; many have just turned six and will enter the 21st century 16 years later. They must make it a century of peace and prosperity for our planet, a century of the greatest scientific discoveries aimed at achieving one goal — human happiness.

Binging up and educating such little ones to become creative people capable of offering effective opposition to destructive humans who believe in putting an end to life on Earth — this is the purpose of the School Reform now in process. In the Soviet Union, it is a genuine reform, which has been discussed by 120 million people. Its implementation commences at the beginning of the new school year. New school plans and curricula are being prepared to properly reflect the latest advance in mathematics, technical subjects and the social sciences. Arts and aesthetics will be taught. But the pivot of the reform is seen in labour education, practical assistance to young people in choosing their professions while still at school.

The new curricula will become effective from September 1, 1988. Gradual introduction of methods of teaching six-year-old children begins this year. Considerable allocations are appropriated for the reform implementation — 11,000 million roubles from the state budget. During the next five-year plan period (between 1986 and 1990) schools will be built for 7 million pupils, almost twice as much as in the current five-year plan period. Teachers' salaries will increase by 35 per cent.

A decree of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR has proclaimed September 1 the traditional beginning of the school year — a holiday named "Day of Knowledge". From its very inception the Soviet State has been paying tremendous attention to educating all the more than 100 peoples and nationalities of the USSR. There have been tremendous achievements in education in all the Union Republics. According to the Central Statistical Board of the USSR, 106 million people are currently pursuing education in various fields. The 1983-84 data include the following: secondary schools — 44.5 million pupils; vocational training schools — 4.1 million pupils; secondary special education establishments — 4.5 million students; institutions of higher learning — 5.3 million students. 47.9 million people were being trained for new jobs or were going through refresher courses that year alone. All types of education, including higher education, are free and accessible to all in the USSR.

FROM the SOVIET PRESS

GEOHERMAL POWER PLANT DESIGNED FOR TRANS-CARPATIAN AREA

IZVESTIA writes that Ukraine's first experimental geothermal power plant is being designed. The site is near the Transcarpathian village of Nizhny Remety where the 4.3 km pit confirmed scientific hypothesis about local underground rocks heated to over 200°C. The temperature will make it possible to build an underground boiler for the would-be plant. The technically difficult venture is worked out by engineers in Moscow, Leningrad, Kiev, Azerbaijan, Georgia and Daghestan. The power of the experimental plant will be under 2,000 kilowatts, although experts predict a similar plant with a capacity of one million kilowatts which will save as much as two million tonnes of reference fuel annually. Its performance will be an improvement on the Kilmichukay atomic power plant. The station will be ecologically clean.

HELPING TO CHOOSE A PROFESSION

The choice of a profession is one of the chief problems in people's life. Can it be facilitated? In a way, a correct choice of vocation can be made with the help of vocational centres which exist in many cities and give necessary consultations, writes the newspaper SOVIETSKAYA ROSSIYA. In any case, as psychological research carried out at the USSR Institute of Professional Training has shown, among those who followed the advice of specialists at these centres, only 20 per cent regretted the choice later. Among those who did not follow the advice the percentage is opposite: only 20 per cent remained faithful to their choice.

Unfortunately, the possibilities of vocational centres functioning at public education departments are rather limited. Vocational centres attached to big industrial enterprises and associations are much more efficient.

Take, for instance, the 2nd Watch-Making Factory in Moscow, Svetlana in Leningrad and Kommulator in Riga. They are equipped with modern diagnostic apparatuses and have all the necessary information about trades which want manpower at given enterprises.

SHOULD WE SPARE OUR HEART?

The answer to this question was provided by an experiment carried out jointly by Moscow University physicians and biologists, writes SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA (Socialist Industry). Experimenters were given problems to solve while researchers took up their electrocardiograms. It turned out that everyone, to some extent, was nervous during the experiment. Heartbeat sharply accelerated in the case of those who solved the problem correctly, while only a slight increase in the heartbeat of those who could not solve it was registered.

In other words, only those who switched on their emotional areas prior to ascending the "intellectual ladder" succeeded. The heart beats faster in this case. But after the experiment it turned out that the successful ones brought back to normal their pulses in two to three minutes. The ones who failed registered higher load on the heart for a longer time afterwards. This is explained by the fact that negative emotions arise during failure and continue to hold the heart in suspense.

The feelings of dissatisfaction, vexation and spite not only put people into bad mood but also affect the nervous system and the heart. Sometimes people try to avoid solving a particular problem in an attempt to escape emotional disturbances, but the impassioned electrocardiogram tape shows the opposite.

THE STUDY OF THE 'TOMSK PHENOMENON'

A search for the remnants of a celestial body which on February 28 this year flew over the taiga round the

Chulym River has been started by an expedition mounted by the Siberian Branch of the USSR Academy of Sciences, the Siberian PRAVDA reports.

This was a big and exceptionally large meteor, a fire-ball which in the specialists' view has been called no better than the mysterious ball lightnings. A space object which had pierced the atmosphere at a height of approximately one hundred kilometres, flared up and left behind a fiery trail over the Krasnoyarsk Territory, and the Kemerovo, Novosibirsk and Tomsk regions. It then exploded before reaching the Earth's surface.

What use could be the study of this natural phenomenon? The study of the Tomsk bolide is of great importance in itself, the newspaper stresses. The scientists now have a possibility to compile a detailed description of the entry of a big celestial body into the Earth's atmosphere. Besides, the participants of the expedition believe that the processing and analysis of the witnesses' accounts will allow scientists to have a novel interpretation of the information about the fall of the Tunguska meteor in 1908. This is particularly valuable since the trajectory of the "Tomsk Phenomenon" remarkably repeated the course of the Tunguska meteor. This fact gives rise to a large number of interesting suggestions.

The value of the "Tomsk Phenomenon" has been made all the more valuable for the explorers by an unusual circumstance—the fire-ball had an unusually marked electrophysical properties.

The witnesses noted that the flight of the fire-ball was accompanied by characteristic sounds, while in the woods and villages over which it flew steady static disrupted television reception. Very often witnesses of fire-balls seem to hear the sounds as coming not from the bolide itself, but from the metal objects around them. The Tomsk fire-ball gave researchers a wealth of new facts which will possibly help them introduce new details into, or even to refute the existing hypothesis concerning such phenomena.

ENTERTAINMENT

Theatre, Cinema and TV Stars

IRINA KUPCHENKO



Without hesitation, the director then offered to Irina Kupchenko another classical and marvellous role — that of Sonya in the screen version of Chekhov's "Uncle Vanya". Liza Kalitina gave up love and happiness for the sake of God, Sonya who was desperately in love with someone who didn't love her, was denied happiness by fate. Realizing this she began to dissipate the wealth of her soul on people unworthy of such sacrifices. She was different from Liza, having her own approach to the world. Yet the two characters stem from the same root: the concept of the "Turgenev girl" and the "Chekhovian heroine" have a lot in common.

Kupchenko's third classical role was Princess Trubetskaya in the film "Star of Enchanting Happiness". Once again she was expected to embody both a specific character and a whole concept — this time that of a "Decembrist wife". In other words she had to play one of those wonderful women who set off for voluntary exile in Siberia, following their husbands who failed to overthrow the tsar in December 1825. Such women who had to give up their native homes, relatives and way of life possessed enormous inner strength. Trubetskaya was ready to do all this even though she did not share her husband's convictions.

It is usually the spontaneity, liveliness and charm of young debutant actresses that attract audiences. But first appearing on the screen at 18, Irina Kupchenko struck people in quite a different way — by her profound and strong nature, by a paradoxical combination of inner clear-cut individuality combined with modest and unpretentious looks. She first appeared on the screen as Liza Kalitina, in the classical role of a "Turgenev girl" in the film version of this writer's novel "A Nest of Gentlefolk". The "Turgenev girl" is a particularly Russian concept. It implies a great degree of spiritual and moral force, self-sacrifice, a heightened sense of duty, purity of emotions and a clear conscience combined with extraordinary femininity, spiritual fragility, modesty and reserve. This was the rich inner world that was visible in Liza performed by Kupchenko.

Tatyana SAVITSKAYA

MONTREAL PRIZE FOR CONSERVATOIRE STUDENT

The first prize in the 17th Montreal International Contest of Pianists was won by a 22-year-old Yekaterina Sarantseva, student of the Moscow Conservatoire. The contest drew competitors from 19 countries. The programme included virtuosic works by Rachmaninov,

Scriabin, Chopin, Liszt and other composers. Those who reached the third round were supposed to learn, within a few days, a very difficult work written by a modern composer. This increased the value of the Moscow pianists' success. The 2nd and 3rd prizes were also won by

Moscow Conservatoire students Yur Rozum and T. Klimova. In its enthusiastic comments on the beautiful technique of Y. Sarantseva, the Canadian press wrote that she used it primarily to express feelings. Her tiny but amazingly strong hands were praised.



Two exhibitions have been mounted in the Central Artists Club in Krymskaya Embankment, Moscow. One of them features water colours, drawings, posters and paintings on silk by Vietnamese artist To Lien. The other exhibition comprises the works of art earmarked for participation in the 1984 USSR State Prize contest. This Prize is awarded annually for outstanding achievements in literature, the arts and architecture.

● To Lien, "Tol".
● V. Sidorov, "The Birch-Tree Wind".

'Peace unto you, the Spanish land'

This Soviet song has been sung for the first time in Valencia, the old Spanish town, where the Alexandrov Song and Dance Ensemble of the Soviet Army is currently on tour. This is the ensemble's third tour of Spain and now it is being undertaken at a time when preparations for the 40th anniversary of victory over fascism are in full swing. Thus a considerable part of the ensemble's repertoire is made up of songs about the heroism of the Soviet people during World War II and their desire to live in peace. The ensemble also sings Spanish folk songs. The tour will last 45 days and will take the ensemble to Madrid, Seville, Saragossa, and other Spanish cities.

BOLSHOI ENTERS A NEW SEASON

Stanislav Lushin, Director-General of the Bolshoi Theatre and the Kremlin Palace of Congresses, tells about Bolshoi Theatre's new season which opens with Glinka's opera "Ivan Susanin".

Before the opening of the season the ballet toured abroad. Our leading dancers gave concerts in Greece and Tunisia, Holland and Italy. Rome newspapers called the programme, which included "Tribute to Ulanova", a "feast of classical dance". The leading parts were danced by the pupils of the famous ballerina.

In a few days the ballet company will leave the city again. For a whole month they will give performances in Kishinev, dancing all the best ballets.

MOSCOW ART THEATRE ON TOUR

A new theatrical season of the famous Burgtheater in Vienna has been opened by the Moscow Art Theatre company with the play, "This Way We Shall Win". It is a documentary drama about the founder of the Soviet state, Lenin, written by Soviet playwright Mikhail Shatrov. His subject deals with the most complicated issues facing mankind today.

In all three plays, fully reflecting the main directions in its artistic activities, will be staged by the Art Theatre company. Apart from Shatrov's play, it will show "The Sea Gull", which personifies the theatre's permanent interest in Russian classics, particularly Chekhov. Both plays were directed by Oleg Yulievich. The foreign play on the company's repertoire is Moliere's "Tartuffe", directed by Anatoly Efros.

Apart from Vienna, the Art Theatre was the first Soviet company to take part in the Salzburg Arts Festival. After

They will also go to Krasnodar (Siberia) where an opera ballet theatre was opened several years ago with our help.

Work will continue in connection with the commemoration of the 40th anniversary of victory over fascism on the new repertoire. In the repertoire of the Bolshoi Theatre will be a new version of the opera "A Story About a Real Man" based on a story by Boris Polevoi. In the repertoire of the Bolshoi Theatre will be a new version of the opera "The Merry Widow" by Franz Lehár. The Bolshoi Theatre will also stage one-act ballets prepared by younger people. One is "The Melancholy Knight" by music by Richard Strauss based on Goethe's "Don Quixote", the other — "Elysium" by music by Alfred Schnittke based on a story by Gogol.

performances in Austria, the Art Theatre company will go to Hungary.



A scene from "Tartuffe". Back — Anastasiya Vertinskaya, Tartuffe — Stanislav Lyubshin.

WHAT'S ON!

September 1-3

THEATRES

Bolshoi Theatre (Sverdlov Sq.). The opening of the season. 1 — Glinka, "Ivan Susanin" (opera).
Stanislavsky and Nemirovich-Danchenko Musical Theatre (17 Pushkinskaya St.). 1 — Rimsky-Korsakov, "May Night" (opera). 2 (mat.) — Morozov, "Doctor Doolittle" (ballet); 2 (eve) — Tchaikovsky, "Eugene Onegin" (opera). 3 — Yurovsky, "Crimson Satin" (ballet).
Satre Theatre (18 Bolshaya Sadovaya St.). 1 — Gorin, Shrivindi, "A Concerto for Theatre and Orchestra". 2 — Ustinov, "Krumpholtz". 3 — Gogol, "The Inspector-General".
Miniatures Theatre (3 Karetny Ryad, at the Hermitage Gardens). 1, 3 — "The Chronicle of Widely Broadcast Death".

FILMS

Frances (Britain, in 2 parts). A dramatic life story of the American film star of the 1930s Frances Farmer, a woman of bright and clear-cut individuality and strong

character. She found herself in strong opposition to the dealers and paid dearly for this.
Cinema: "Moskva" (2 Metrokovskogo Sq.). Metro Maryinskaya.
Of Nearly the Same Age (Corky Studios).
A story about a young teacher of literature who managed to win sympathy of children.
Cinema: "Udarnik" (2 Sotimovicha St.). Metro Biblioteka imeni Lenina.

EXHIBITIONS

Friendship House (16 Pekt Kallina). An exhibition of artists from Aland Islands (Finland). Drawings, paintings and sculptures. Open daily, except Saturday and Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Metro Arbat.

BUSINESS

Indian firm opens office in Moscow

The Indian firm Chinair Exports Ltd. has opened its office in Moscow. In a talk with journalists the firm's president Mr. H. S. Sandhu said that business contacts with Soviet foreign trade associations were established ten years ago and at present the Soviet Union takes 40 per cent of the firm's foreign trade turnover although the firm

trades with 50 countries. The favourable conditions on the Soviet market help the firm, which is one of India's chief exporters, to expand deliveries of machinery for the oil and gas industries, as well as textile equipment, building materials and consumer goods. The firm buys a number of commodities from the USSR.

Arab-Soviet Chamber of Commerce meeting

The Council of the Arab-Soviet Chamber of Commerce has concluded its fifth session in Moscow. It was attended by delegations from the USSR Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the General Union of Arab Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture, Soviet foreign trade associations which are members of the Arab-Soviet Chamber of Commerce. Also represented were the national chambers of commerce of Jordan, Iraq, Kuwait, Lebanon, People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, Syria, the Yemen Arab Republic, Sudan and the United Arab Emirates. A joint communiqué issued after the session underscores the successful development of trade and economic relations

between the USSR and Arab countries. The participants in the session spoke in favour of further expansion and development of comprehensive contacts between Soviet and Arab agencies and firms.

Delegates spoke in favour of developing the most efficient forms of bilateral economic cooperation, for instance by using compensation deals and prime contracts.

The session admitting the Chambers of Commerce and Industry of the Kazakh SSR and the Uzbek SSR as new members of the Arab-Soviet Chamber of Commerce.

The next meeting of the Council will take place in one of the Arab countries next year.

Intourist news

An exhibition has been mounted in the Praga Cinema House in Moscow to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the Slovak national uprising which marked the beginning of the people's democratic revolution in Czechoslovakia and contributed to the country's liberation from the yoke of Nazi Germany.

The exhibition shows the expansion of tourist contacts between Czechoslovakia and the USSR, and shows 1985 tourist routes for Soviet tourists prepared by the Czech travel company.

Roads of friendship, roads of memory

Many routes are devoted to the 40th anniversary of the liberation of Czechoslovakia from Nazi and 40th anniversary since the end of World War II. They pass over memorable places where Soviet and Czechoslovak soldiers fought the Nazi invaders together.

One road of memory begins in Kocice from where the tourists go to see the monument on the Dukla Pass. Here Soviet and Czechoslovak soldiers entered the territory of Slovakia together in October 1944, and started the liberation process of the whole country. Banská Bystrica, the heart of the Slovak nation's

SHIPS FROM ROMANIA AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA

A new "Kaspil"-type tanker, built at the Romanian shipyards in Drobeta-Turnu-Severin, by order of the V/O Sudimport, has been launched. In the current year the orders of the Soviet foreign trade association are also fulfilled at the Oltenita shipyards. The USSR sends various equipment for these ships.

In 30 years of business cooperation between V/O Sudimport and the Czechoslovak Maritimex joint-stock company the latter has supplied our country with over 800 ships for different purposes. Including passenger motor-ships, self-propelled dredgers and barges, floating pumping stations. Built at the shipyards Ceske Lodi (Prague) and Slovenske Lodnice (Komarno), they are well known to the river-transport workers of the Volga, the Ob, the Severnaya Dvina, and Central Asian specialists in land reclamation. In the current five-year period business contacts of the partners continue to make rapid headway. This year Czechoslovakia is supplying the USSR with new technical ships, and the Soviet Union sends to Czechoslovakia in increasing numbers complete sets of ship equipment.

WEATHER

September 1-3

In Moscow, city and region, cloudy weather with clear spells and rain is expected (mainly dry on September 3). Night temperatures of 8°, 10°C and 16°, 20°C during the day (a slight drop to 13°, 18°C on September 2). SW and W wind, 5-10 mps.

State Bank of the USSR

SOME FOREIGN EXCHANGE QUOTATIONS FOR AUGUST, 1984	
Currency	Quotations in roubles
Albanian lek	100 11.94
Argentinian dollar	100 16.15
Australian dollar	100 1.22
Austrian schilling	100 69.96
Belgian franc	100 4.10
Bulgarian lev	1,000 14.23
Canadian dollar	100 185.26
Cuban peso	100 63.33
Czechoslovak koruna	100 90.00
Danish krone	100 10.00
DRPK won	100 7.91
Egyptian pound	100 68.44
English pound sterling	1 1.15
Finnish marka	100 109.82
French franc	100 13.77
FRG mark	100 9.37
[Deutsche mark]	100 24.79
GDR mark	100 31.25
Greek drachma	1,000 7.37
Hungarian forint	100 5.63
Icelandic krona	100 2.69
Indian rupee	100 7.33
Indonesian rupiah	1,000 0.78
Iranian rial	100 0.90
Irish dollar	1 2.59
Italian lira	10,000 4.65
Japanese yen	1,000 3.42
Kuwait dinar	1 2.79
Lebanese pound	100 13.12
Libyan dinar	1 2.81
Malaysian ringgit	100 35.10
Netherlands guilder	100 25.52
Polish zloty	100 1.67
Portuguese escudo	1,000 5.69
PRC yuan	100 35.75
Romanian lei	100 12.05
Spanish peseta	1,000 2.08
Sri Lanka rupee	100 3.27
SRV dong	100 10.47
Sudanese pound	100 63.65
Swedish krona	100 9.92
Swiss franc	100 34.45
Syrian pound	100 20.34
US dollar	100 82.40
Yugoslav dinar	1,000 5.34

PEOPLE, EVENTS, FACTS

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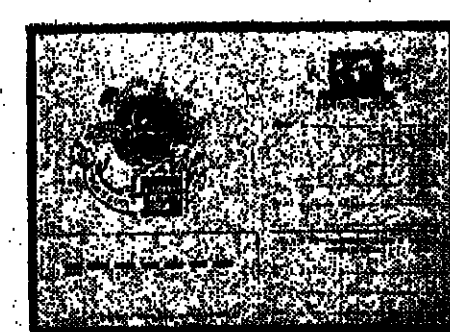
SOCPILEX-84:

SOVIET EXPOSITION

Twenty-nine exhibits have been sent by the USSR Philatelic Society to the International exhibition, Socpilex-84, which is due to take place in the Polish town of Wrocław from September 8 to 16. They include 43 exhibitions contributed by Moscow stamp collectors: "Peace is the Most

Charished Thing for Humanity" (A. Gubal), "Active Red Army, Field Post No." (I. Druzhinin), "USSR Air Mail" (I. Melnikov) and others. The Central Communications Museum is sending part of the State Collection of USSR Postage Stamps to exposition.

UPU POSTCARD



The USSR Ministry of Communications has issued a one-sided postcard with a special stamp commemorating the 19th Congress of the Universal Postal Union founded in 1874. Our country is one of the Union's founding states, with the Russian language being one of the working languages in the Union alongside English and Spanish. UPU's official language is French.